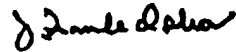


KUMAZAWA et al.  
Q77598  
Preliminary Amendment

**REMARKS**

Claim 4 has been amended to correct an improper multiple dependency. New Claim 8 has been added to retain the same scope of coverage as in Claim 4 prior to the present Preliminary Amendment. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 29, 2003